

From: Susan Mazurski June 2, 2009 8:47:27 AM  
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To: SimsburyCT\_SelectMin  
Cc:

Board of Selectmen Special Meeting  
Simsbury Public Library – Program Room  
725 Hopmeadow Street  
Simsbury, CT  
Tuesday, May 12, 2009

The Board of Selectmen convened the special meeting with the Simsbury Chamber of Commerce at 9:04 a.m. In attendance were First Selectman Mary Glassman and Selectman John Hampton, Robert Hensley and Moira Wertheimer. Also in attendance were Pam Bowman, President of the Chamber of Commerce, Charity Folk, executive director of the Chamber of Commerce and other members of the Chamber and the Public.

The Board asked for public comment.

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive, spoke on a number of issues on the agenda including concern about adopting the Signal Booster ordinance because of the costs to businesses and her concern that the Town should not purchase the Airport.

Leigh King, Simsbury, thanked the board for all of their hard work on the budget and for holding costs down. He said the state could learn a lesson about budgeting from the Town of Simsbury.

First Selectman Glassman explained that Town Staff would briefly present a status report on each agenda item and then would open the meeting up for questions and answers.

Economic Stimulus Projects -Town Engineer Richard Sawitzke then updated the group on Economic Stimulus Projects noting that the Town has submitted an application for funding of the Town's portion of the East Coast Greenway project. The application would pay for paving of a path in Tariffville and was submitted to Congressman Chris Murphy's office.

Incentive Housing Zones – Town Planning and Development Director Hiram Peck said the IHZ zone discussions are moving forward. He said the consultant has recommended a list of all potential IHZ sites and that letter will be posted on the town website this afternoon.

Planned Area Development – Mr. Peck said the subcommittee of the Zoning Commission continues to meet and to discuss a draft PAD regulation. He said the subcommittee will meet this Thursday, May 14, 2009 and the next two Thursdays to review the draft. He said the subcommittee will then make a recommendation.

Signal Booster – First Selectman Glassman discussed the signal booster ordinance, distributed a copy (attached) and reported that the Board of Selectmen held a public hearing. Mr. Hensley said that the purpose of the ordinance is well intended but will require new or renovated business owners to incur costs. The Public Safety Subcommittee will discuss the item at their next meeting, Thursday, May 21st at 7 a.m. in the main meeting room of town hall.

Simsbury Airport Status – Mr. Sawitzke said the Economic Development Commission is waiting to hear from the owners of the property and the Town of East Granby before taking any further action.

Floydville Road Bridge – Mr. Sawitzke said the bridge is open and that has been posted on the web site.

Simsbury Center Underground Power – Mr. Sawitzke stated that he has sent a memo to the Economic Development Commission that outlines the costs associated with putting the town electrical lines underground. He said the cost is very high, \$4.2 million, and would also require businesses to pay their contribution. He said at this time there are no grants available.

Charrette – Mr. Peck said the subcommittee recommended the town enter into a contract with Code Studio and he is currently working to get a contract draft for the Board of Selectmen to review.

Civil Preparedness – First Selectman Glassman said the town is in constant communication with the Governor's Office, Dept. of Public Health and Homeland Security. New information is distributed to residents through the website and to the Chamber as it is available.

Local Vendor Preference Update – Glassman said the town has done research as to what other towns offer. A copy of that information was distributed (attached).

Barndoor Triangle Update – Glassman said the Open Space Committee is working on researching the condition of the soils on the Triangle before making any further recommendation.

The board then invited questions.

Pam Bowman thanked the town and staff for all of their hard work in soliciting grants and for providing momentum to land use issues.

Paul Mikkelson encouraged the town to look for grants to fund the underground wires downtown.

Dave Richman urged the town to accept the Station Street building for \$1.

Lou George, member of the EDC, said the EDC has looked at wireless options in the past which might be an option instead of the signal booster ordinance.

Peter Pabich thanked the board for their willingness to meet with members of the business community to provide updates on town matters.

Bharity Folk thanked the board and stated while these issues are important to the business community, residents cannot always get to a night meeting and a forum updating residents on local issues is important.

The Board of Selectmen and the Chamber agreed to meet again in September. Glassman moved to adjourn at 9:15; seconded by Mr. Hampton and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Glassman  
First Selectman